

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —

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EDITORIAL

A GOOD NEW YEAR RESOLUTION FOR PREACHERS

"Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes."—Isa. 54:2.

These words of the inspired writer suggests to us, as God's people, workers in His kingdom, enlargement, progress, advancement, which should be the desire, and purpose of every child of God, both in reference to his personal experience, and also to the work of the church in general, and this is the command of God's word, that we "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Growth, advancement is the evidence of a normal Christian life. It is also essential to the same. We must grow or die spiritually, there is no alternative. When our physical bodies cease growing they begin to deteriorate. We may not notice the change for a time but that is really what is taking place. The same law is applicable to our intellects. It is said that Sir William Gladstone used to say, there is one thing that every body in the world is doing at the same time, viz., growing older or changing. This is true concerning our bodies and minds. But the Blood washed, regenerated soul or spirit of a normal Christian does not grow old, or deteriorate with the passing of the years. "Though the outward man perish, the inner man is renewed day by day," saith the apostle Paul.

God's prophet, Joel, said a long time ago: "Your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams." Someone commenting on this scripture said: It is not the number of years we have lived that determines our age, it is rather our spiritual condition, and outlook upon life. As long as we are still looking forward with faith, and vision for the success of God's work, we are still young men: But when we have lost this, and settled down and are just putting in time, and drawing our pay, without making much effort for advancement either for our own souls, or for the work of God, and if we are quite content to just exist, spiritually, and dream, old age has come already, decay has set in, weakness, backsliding, and spiritual death is not far distant. Such souls may still be very active in social affairs, or even in some phases of religious life, where too much spirituality is not required: but because they became luke warm, God has spued them out of His mouth. They are walking spiritual corpses of which there are many in our churches. Paul describes them in Eph. 2; read it.

So for a New Year's resolution, let us deter-

mine to go ahead, to make progress in our own spiritual lives, and in God's work. We must lengthen our cords, and strengthen our stakes, and take new territory for God, or lose our vision, our faith, and finally die of "dry rot." We must not, we dare not retrench.

May God help us: If our fathers had life, courage, and faith enough to travel on foot, horse back, and in the old buggy wagon to evangelize this country on holiness lines, have revivals in tents, school houses, barns, fish sheds, etc., and then organize churches and Sunday schools, build meeting houses, and camp grounds, without any mission board back of them to help to pay the bills, brethren, we ought to be able today, with modern facilities that we have and the people to stand back of us, the means of travel, etc., not only to keep all those churches opened, but also to organize new ones. I fear that we are losing the vision and spirit of sacrifice, and are becoming satisfied with our present attainments which means no more progress. I read recently of an artist who had painted a masterpiece. His friends were giving him great praise. He stood looking at his work with a very sad countenance. His friends asked him why he was so sad. He replied, because I cannot see where I can improve on my work, and that means I am done growing. God save us from being satisfied with ourselves, or our work. And what shall I say more? for the time would fail me to more than mention the names of Kinghorn, MacDonald, Gravinor, Wiggins, Baker, Sanders, Keirsteads, Sterritts and others who through faith, preached holiness, wrought righteousness, had revivals, supported their families, went to foreign countries, preached the gospel, evangelized the heathen in far off South Africa, while others forsook them because they sought an easier way.

In many cases temporal prosperity is detrimental to spirituality. The tendency is to take life easy and not take our call to the ministry seriously enough. Seeing God has given us a number of strong young men for the holiness ministry, shall we not keep faith with our fathers who through faith and hard work established the cause of holiness in this country, and shall not we seize the torch, and carry the truth of full salvation into new fields in the regions round about us? Would that not be a good New Year's resolution to put into effect in 1942? Did I hear you say Amen? Then I say I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.—H. S. D.

THE CROSS—THE SICKLE—THE SWASTIKA

Rev. J. C. McPheeters, D. D.

Every great crusading movement of the world has a symbol, insignia or banner under which it marches. Christianity has its symbol in the cross, The greatest rivals of Christianity of the present age have their symbols in the sickle and the hammer—Communism, and the swastika—Naziism. These great ideologies of the world are now engaged in death grips. The race is between Jesus Christ and the dictators of the world.

Two big events in the news of recent weeks have focused renewed attention upon this titanic struggle. The verdict of Judge Sears declaring Harry Bridges to be a Communist, and recommending his deportation; and the statement of President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning religious freedom in Russia have fairly deluged the press, the radio and the platform with statements concerning the struggle between the three dominant ideologies of the world.

The verdict of Judge Sears, declaring Harry

Bridges to be a Communist, and recommending his deportation, calls our attention to the privileges enjoyed in our American democracy as compared to the nations of the Old World ruled by dictators. In the face of Judge Sears' decision, Mr. Bridges will have the right to petition for appeal, and there is no disposition on the part of the government or the people of this country other than to give Mr. Bridges all the resources of the law, and every possible opportunity to defend himself. No such wide latitude in matters of appeal and recourse to the protection of the law could be found in the dictator nations of the world. It is not within our province to discuss whether or not Mr. Bridges is a Communist. The court has already rendered its verdict upon this question, and from that verdict Mr. Bridges will be given full recourse of the law in the matter of appeal, or petition for rehearing. It should be a matter for all agitators in this country who are constantly demanding such radical changes in our government, and in what they call our capitalistic system, to consider well the fact that they would receive no such protection for similar adverse propaganda in those countries whose form of government they would like to establish in the United States. A similar court finding in Russia or in Germany as Mr. Bridges faces at the present time would likely mean that he would be confronted with a firing squad without any further right of petition. The freedom which we enjoy in America is in a land where the cross is the dominant religious symbol, and this symbol in America stands for religious freedom, and the democratic way of life.

The founding fathers of America were predominantly Christian. The fact that they were predominantly Christian caused them to write into the Constitution of the nation the principle of religious freedom. Jesus, the founder of the Christian faith, was a champion of religious freedom. He never coerced any one to follow him. It was only by a free-will response that he obtained his disciples. The compulsion of his kingdom is the compulsion of divine love.

Another big news item was the statement of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in a press conference concerning the religious freedom granted by Russia in her Constitution. The President made reference to the article in the Soviet Constitution, and made some comparisons of the religious freedom enjoyed in Russia to that enjoyed in the United States. Whatever the President's motives may have been in his statement, one thing is certain that a furor of protest and criticism instantly sprang up all over the nation. The President's statement certainly does call our attention anew to a comparison of religious freedom in the United States. All the world knows that there is a statement on paper in the Russian Constitution about religious freedom, a statement which purports to grant religious freedom and anti-religious propaganda. The facts of current history, however, do not vindicate the statement concerning religious freedom in the Russian Constitution as in any sense being valid.

The sickle and the hammer stand in opposition to the cross, with the avowed purpose to hew down the cross with the sickle, and to mutilate it to fragments with the hammer. This is the business in which the Soviet regime has been engaged for twenty-three years, and there is no sign of abatement of this regime, save some recent concessions made by